Constituency Funds to MPs

3748. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the proposed one crore constituency fund will be provided to the Members of Parliament; and

(b) what are the guidelines for alloting the funds to the Members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) *and (b) A decision is yet to be taken in* the matter.

Appointment of Non-Official Directors on the Boards of Banks

3749. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narasimham Committee had recommended the depolitisation of the appointments in the Banks and also for objective selection procedures to identify permanent non-official Directors;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government/Banks in this regard;

(c) whether non-official directors appointed on the Boards of the Banks are still continuing as old appointee; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make fresh appointments in the light of above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The Narasimham Committee on the Financial System had, inter-alia, recommended that professionalism and integrity should be the prime considerations in determining the appointment of chief executives and the directors on the boards of the banks.

For appointment of whole time directors, including the chief executives of the banks, an Appointments Board has been constituted under the chairmanship of Governor, Reserve Bank of India to recommend to the Government names of persons who could be considered for these posts. Appointment of non-official directors on the boards of the nationalised banks is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Schemes, 1970 and 1980, which provides for making of these appointments after consultation with the Reserve Bank of India. These statutory provisions are followed by the Government while making the appointments.

(c) and (d) At present, 90 non-official directors appointed on the boards of the 20 nationalised banks in 1989 are continuing pending appointment of their successors. Government have already initiated necessary steps for filling up of the vacancies as well as for replacing the existing non-official directors.

Downward Trend in Number of New Issues

3750. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of issues entering the market is going down steadily since February, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the amount offered in each issues;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have enquired into the reasons of the downward trend; and

(d) if so, details thereof and steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.